Judith Feinstein Hallowell LD 677

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am writing to ask for your support of LD 677, "An Act to Update the Statutory Definition of "Machine Gun" and Prohibit Possession of a Rapid-fire Device." As you will have heard and read in other testimony, Maine already recognizes the danger of machine guns that fire dozens of rounds in rapid succession, and current Maine law bans weapons that have certain devices attached to firearms. With the passage of LD 677, you can directly address the sale and proliferation of these devices themselves, rather than waiting until they are attached to a firearm. These devices can greatly accelerate a semiautomatic gun's normal rate of fire, turning a gun into a fully automatic firearm. We have seen that Federal law on devices is NOT enough. These kinds of devices have been used in high-profile and mass shootings, and law enforcement agencies are recovering more and more machine gun conversion devices from these tragic and avoidable events. Please support LD 677 and help make a safer and saner place to live.